

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss this application. Applicants have considered the Examiner's remarks and have carefully studied the Final Examiner's Action, the Supplemental Final Office Action and all references cited therein. The amendment appearing above and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Actions. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants respond to the outstanding Action by centered headings that correspond to the centered headings employed by the Office, to ensure full response on the merits to each finding of the Office.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicants acknowledges the quotation of 35 U.S.C § 103(a).

Claims 16, 18-21, 25, 27, 28 and 38-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koschella (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,121) in view of Desmicht et al. (US 20060156033).

Independent claim 16 has been amended to more clearly describe that which the applicant regards as the invention.

Amended independent claim 16 is directed to a memory unit that includes a non-volatile memory including a protected area, the protected area further including an authorization unit information block and an authorization unit information block pointer, a JTAG interface, authorization logic configured to authorize software to run on a CPU based on secret information in the authorization unit information block, and a controller configured to allow JTAG hardware to write information into the authorization unit information block and into the authorization unit information block pointer of the protected area through the JTAG interface, to allow the authorization logic exclusive access to read the written information and to prevent any over-writing of the written information until the non-volatile memory is entirely erased.

Applicant contends that Koschella in combination with Desmicht et al. does not disclose all of the limitations of amended claim 16. More specifically, neither Koschella or Desmicht disclose a memory unit that includes “a controller configured to allow JTAG hardware to write information into the authorization unit information block and into the authorization unit information block pointer of the protected area through the JTAG interface, to allow the authorization logic exclusive access to read the written information and to prevent any over-writing of the written information until the non-volatile memory is entirely erased” as is specifically recited in independent claim 16, as amended, of the present application.

For the reasons cited above, Applicant believes that independent claim 16 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 18-24, 29-31 and 38 and 39 are dependent upon claim 16 and are therefore allowable as a matter of law.

Independent claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koschella (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,121) in view of Desmicht et al. (US 20060156033).

Independent claim 25 has been amended to more clearly describe that which the applicant regards as the invention.

Amended independent claim 25 is directed to memory unit that includes a non-volatile memory including a protected area, the protected area further including an authorization unit information block and an authorization unit information block pointer, authorization logic configured to authorize software to run on a CPU based on secret information in the authorization unit information block, a JTAG interface clocked by a JTAG clock signal received from an external JTAG hardware, and a controller configured to allow the external JTAG hardware to write information into the authorization unit information block and into the authorization unit information block pointer of the non-volatile memory through the JTAG interface, and configured to allow the authorization logic exclusive access to read the written information, wherein the controller is clocked by a system clock signal if the system clock signal is available, and by the JTAG clock signal if the system clock signal is not available.

Applicants assert that neither Koschella or Desmicht et al. disclose a memory unit that includes “a controller configured to allow the external JTAG hardware to write information into the authorization unit information block and into the authorization unit information block pointer of the non-volatile memory through the JTAG interface, and configured to allow the authorization logic exclusive access to read the written information, wherein the controller is clocked by a system clock signal if the system clock signal is available, and by the JTAG clock signal if the system clock signal is not available” as is recited in independent claim 25, as amended, of the present application.

Accordingly, Applicants believes that claim 25 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 27, 28, 29-31, 39 and 41-44 are dependent upon claim 25 and are therefore allowable as a matter of law.

Restriction Requirement

Applicant respectfully requests review of the restriction requirement mailed on September 7, 2006 and requests rejoinder Group I and Group II.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Application based on the amendments and remarks presented above. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims now pending in the Application are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. Should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' representative, Kenneth Glass, at (408) 354-4448 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For the reasons set forth in this paper, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

10/26/07
(Date)

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